

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1 1. A method for advanced network viewing, comprising:  
2 accessing a first site;  
3 querying at least one of a link and a second site linked to said first site;  
4 generating a representation of said linked second site;  
5 communicating the representation wherein the communicated representation  
6 enables a user to preview the linked second site.

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1 2. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the querying step includes  
2 limiting the scope of the query by including a defined limitation.

1 3. The method as described in claim 2, wherein the limiting step includes at least  
2 one of a hierarchy and number of links.

1 4. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the generating step includes  
2 forming a thumbnail representation of the linked second site.

1 5. The method as described in claim 4, wherein the thumbnail representation is  
2 formed by taking a snapshot of the linked second site.

1 6. The method as described in claim 1, further comprising storing the  
2 representation.

1 7. The method as described in claim 6, further comprising periodically updating  
2 the stored representation by at least one of the linked second site and the first site.

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1 8. The method as described in claim 7, wherein the updating step is performed  
2 during idle time.

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1 9. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the communicating step includes  
2 displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 10. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the communicating step includes  
2 displaying the representation as part of display of the first site so that the  
3 representation may be viewed as a component part of the first site.

1 11. The method as described in claim 10, wherein the representation is displayed  
2 proximally to the link.

1 12. The method as described in claim 1, wherein if the linked second site is not  
2 accessible, generating a representation indicating that the linked second site is not  
3 accessible.

1 13. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the generating step includes  
2 correlating descriptive information with a representation.

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- 1 14. A program of instructions storable on a medium readable by an information  
2 handling system for causing the information handling system to execute steps for  
3 advanced network viewing, the steps comprising:  
4 accessing a first site;  
5 querying at least one of a link and a second site linked to said first site;  
6 generating a representation of said linked second site;  
7 communicating the representation wherein the communicated representation  
8 enables a user to preview the linked second site.

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- 1 15. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the querying  
2 step includes limiting the scope of the query by including a defined limitation.

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- 1 16. The program of instructions as described in claim 15, wherein the limiting step  
2 includes at least one of a hierarchy and number of links.

- 1 17. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the generating  
2 step includes forming a thumbnail representation of the linked second site.

- 1 18. The program of instructions as described in claim 17, wherein the thumbnail  
2 representation is formed by taking a snapshot of the linked second site.

- 1 19. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, further comprising  
2 storing the representation.

- 1 20. The program of instructions as described in claim 19, further comprising  
2 periodically updating the stored representation by at least one of the linked second site  
3 and the first site.

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- 1 21. The program of instructions as described in claim 20, wherein the updating  
2 step is performed during idle time.

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- 1 22. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the  
2 communicating step includes displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 23. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the  
2 communicating step includes displaying the representation as part of the first site so  
3 that the representation is viewed as a component part of the first site.

01 1 24. The program of instructions as described in claim 23, wherein the  
2 representation is displayed proximally to the link.

1 25. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein if the linked  
2 second site is not accessible, generating a representation indicating that the linked  
3 second site is not accessible.

1 26. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the generating  
2 step includes correlating descriptive information with a representation.

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1 27. An information handling system for advanced network viewing, comprising:  
2 a processor for executing a program of instructions on the information  
3 handling system;  
4 a memory coupled to the processor for storing the program of instructions  
5 executable by said processor; and  
6 an input and output system coupled to the processor for coupling the  
7 information handling system to a network wherein the program of instructions  
8 configures the information handling system to  
9 access a first site;  
10 query at least one of a link and a second site linked to said first site;  
11 generate a representation of said linked second site;  
12 communicate the representation wherein the communicated  
13 representation enables a user to preview the linked second site.

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1 28. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the  
2 network includes at least one of the Internet, world wide web, bulletin board service,  
3 file transfer protocol site, local area network, and wide area network.

1 29. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein query  
2 instruction includes a limiting instruction thereby limiting the scope of the query by  
3 including a defined limitation.

1 30. The information handling system as described in claim 29, wherein the  
2 limiting instruction includes at least one of a hierarchy and number of links.

1 31. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the  
2 generate instruction includes forming a thumbnail representation of the linked second  
3 site.

1 32. The information handling system as described in claim 31, wherein the  
2 thumbnail representation is formed by taking a snapshot of the linked second site.

1 33. The information handling system as described in claim 27, further comprising  
2 storing the representation.

1 34. The information handling system as described in claim 33, wherein the stored  
2 representation may be periodically updated by at least one of the linked second site  
3 and the first site.

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1 35. The information handling system as described in claim 34, wherein the  
2 periodically updated stored representation is updated during idle time.

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1 36. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the  
2 communicate instruction includes displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 37. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the  
2 communicate instruction includes displaying the representation as part of the first site  
3 so that the representation is viewed as a component part of the first site.

1 38. The information handling system as described in claim 37, wherein the  
2 representation is displayed proximally to the link.

1 39. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein if the  
2 linked second site is not accessible, generating a representation indicating that the  
3 linked second site is not accessible.

1 40. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the  
2 generate instruction includes correlating descriptive information with a representation.

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1 41. An information handling system for advanced network viewing, comprising:  
2 a processor for executing a program of instructions on the information  
3 handling system;  
4 a memory coupled to the processor for storing the program of instructions  
5 executable by said processor; and  
6 an input and output system coupled to the processor for coupling the  
7 information handling system to a network wherein the program of instructions  
8 configures the information handling system to include  
9 means for accessing a first site;  
10 means for querying at least one of a link and a second site linked to  
11 ~~said~~ first site;  
12 means for generating a representation of said linked second site;  
13 means for communicating the representation;  
14 wherein the communicated representation enables a user to preview the  
15 linked second site.

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1 42. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the  
2 network includes at least one of the Internet, world wide web, bulletin board service,  
3 file transfer protocol site, local area network, and wide area network.

1 43. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein querying  
2 means includes a defined limitation thereby limiting the scope of the query.

1 44. The information handling system as described in claim 43, wherein the  
2 limitation includes at least one of a hierarchy and number of links.

1 45. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the  
2 generating means includes forming a thumbnail representation.

1 46. The information handling system as described in claim 45, wherein the  
2 thumbnail representation is formed by taking a snapshot.

1 47. The information handling system as described in claim 41, further comprising  
2 means for storing the representation.

1 48. The information handling system as described in claim 47, wherein the stored  
2 representation may be periodically updated by at least one of the linked second site  
3 and the first site.

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1 49. The information handling system as described in claim 48, wherein the  
2 periodically updated stored representation is updated during idle time.

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1 50. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the  
2 communicating means includes displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 51. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the  
2 communicating means includes displaying the representation as part of the first site.

1 52. The information handling system as described in claim 51, wherein the  
2 representation is displayed proximally to the link.

1 53. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein when the  
2 linked second site is not accessible the generating means utilizes a representation  
3 indicating that the linked second site is not accessible.

1 54. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the  
2 generating means includes means for correlating descriptive information with a  
3 representation.



1 55. A system for advanced network viewing, comprising:  
2 a first site; and  
3 a second site linked over a network to said first site;  
4 wherein the second site provides a representation of said second site to said  
5 first site so that a user may access said first site and preview said second site.

1 56. The system as described in claim 55, wherein the network includes at least one  
2 of the Internet, a local area network, and a wide area network.

1 57. The system as described in claim 55, further comprising storing the  
2 representation.

1 58. The system as described in claim 57, wherein the stored representation may be  
2 periodically updated by at least one of the second site and the first site.

1 59. The system as described in claim 58, wherein the periodically updated stored  
2 representation is updated during idle time.

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